

DETACHABLE SEGMENT STENT

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 An inventive repositionable stent may comprise a plurality of adjacent
serpentine bands connected to one another by at least one permanent connector strut and
by at least one disengagable connector strut. The stent may self-expand within a bodily
lumen to an intermediate deployment diameter, wherein the stent is constrained from
further expansion by the at least one disengagable connector strut. The stent may be
10 repositioned within the bodily lumen while in the intermediate deployment
configuration. The disengagable connector strut may be disengaged via electrolytic
detachment, whereupon the stent may expand to a full deployment diameter.

15

f:\wpwork\jgl\l1293us01_app_20030919.doc